

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 TAIPEI 06782 111013Z
ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15
USIA-06 /059 W
-----070761 120735Z /13

R 110935Z NOV 77
FM AMEMBASSY TAIPEI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5487
INFO AMCONSUL HONG KONG
USLO PEKING
AMEMBASSY TOKYO

S E C R E T TAIPEI 6782

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINT, TW, US
SUBJECT: MEETING WITH PREMIER CHIANG CHING-KUO

1. RESPONDING TO MY OFFER TO MEET WITH HIM AT HIS
CONVENIENCE, PREMIER CHIANG CHING-KUO CALLED ME IN FOR A
SESSION WHICH LASTED OVER AN HOUR ON THE AFTERNOON
OF NOVEMBER 10. MY MAIN PURPOSE WAS TO CONVEY ORAL
MESSAGE FROM THE SECRETARY.

2. I BEGAN BY SAYING THAT THE SECRETARY RECALLED HIS
EARLIER MEETINGS WITH THE PREMIER SOME YEARS AGO AND
HAD ASKED ME TO CONVEY SOME OF HIS THOUGHTS. THE
SECRETARY SAID THAT HE KNEW THE PREMIER WAS AWARE OF THE
POSITION OF THE ADMINISTRATION ON THE CHINA QUESTION IN
GENERAL AND THAT IT WAS OUR INTENTION AT THE PROPER TIME
TO PROCEED WITH FULL NORMALIZATION OF OUR RELATIONS WITH
THE PRC. IN THIS REGARD THE SECRETARY SAID HE DID NOT
ANTICIPATE ANY SIGNIFICANT DEVELOPMENTS OR CHANGES IN
THE NEXT SEVERAL MONTHS AND THAT WE WOULD WANT TO TALK
OVER WITH THE PREMIER WHAT WE INTENDED TO DO BEFORE WE
MOVED IN A CONCRETE WAY OR TOOK ANY PUBLIC ACTION. I

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 TAIPEI 06782 111013Z

ALSO CONVEYED THE SECRETARY'S ASSURANCE THAT WE HAVE
VERY MUCH IN MIND THE NEED FOR MAKING ARRANGEMENTS WHICH
WILL NOT UNDERMINE TAIWAN'S WELL-BEING OR SECURITY. IN
THIS CONNECTION I ADDED THAT ON THE BASIS OF MY CONSULTA-
TIONS IN WASHINGTON I WAS CONVINCED THAT THE PEOPLE WHO
HAVE RESPONSIBILITY FOR OUR CHINA POLICY ARE WELL INFORMED
ABOUT THE ARRANGEMENTS, INCLUDING LEGISLATIVE ACTIONS,

THAT WILL BE REQUIRED. AS FOR THE MORE DISTANT FUTURE I NOTED THAT THE SECRETARY HAD OBSERVED THAT WE LOOK FORWARD ULTIMATELY TO A PEACEFUL RESOLUTION OF THE TAIWAN QUESTION BY THE CHINESE THEMSELVES EITHER THROUGH SOME KIND OF TALKS OR OTHER MEANS. I REITERATED OUR INTEREST WAS THAT THE RESOLUTION SHOULD BE PEACEFUL.

3. THE PREMIER RESPONDED BY SAYING HE WANTED TO MAKE TWO POINTS WHICH WE SHOULD TAKE INTO ACCOUNT IN CONSIDERING OUR FUTURE POLICY. HE SAID THAT THE GROC HAS ALWAYS WANTED TO MAINTAIN BOTH FRIENDLY AND FORMAL DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH THE UNITED STATES. THE CONTINUATION OF SUCH RELATIONS WOULD BE BENEFICIAL TO BOTH COUNTRIES. THE UNITED STATES AND THE PRC HAVE ALREADY ESTABLISHED LIAISON OFFICES. THEIR EXISTENCE IS A FACT AND THE ROC CAN DO NOTHING ABOUT IT. IN THE ROC VIEW, HOWEVER, THIS COMMUNICATION CHANNEL SHOULD BE ADEQUATE FOR OUR PURPOSES. THEREFORE, THE GROC BELIEVES THAT TO MAINTAIN THE STATUS QUO WOULD BE THE BEST POLICY. HE REITERATED THAT CONTINUATION OF FORMAL US-ROC DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WAS "WHAT WE WANT." ON THE POSSIBILITY OF ROC-PRC NEGOTIATIONS THE PREMIER SAID THAT HE HAD MADE IT VERY CLEAR ON NUMEROUS PAST OCCASIONS THAT UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES WOULD THE ROC CONSIDER NEGOTIATION. THERE WAS NO WAY TO CHANGE THIS POSITION, WHICH HE DESCRIBED AS "NONNEGOTIABLE," AND THE UNITED STATES SHOULD TAKE THIS INTO ACCOUNT IN FORMULATING
SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 03 TAIPEI 06782 111013Z

ITS POLICIES. HE CONCLUDED BY SAYING THAT HE WANTED US TO KNOW WHEN WE CONSIDERED ANY CHANGE THAT THESE WERE THE FUNDAMENTAL POLICIES WHICH WOULD BE FOLLOWED BY THE GROC BECAUSE CHANGE WOULD HAVE SUCH SERIOUS CONSEQUENCES.

4. I REPLIED THAT I UNDERSTOOD HIS POSITION BUT POINTED OUT THAT THERE WERE ALSO OTHER CONSIDERATIONS WE HAD TO TAKE INTO ACCOUNT IN MAKING OUR DECISIONS. ON NEGOTIATIONS I SAID THAT MY REFERENCE TO TALKS WAS NOT INTENDED TO RELATE TO THE PRESENT SITUATION BUT RATHER THAT, LOOKING TOWARD AN ULTIMATE SETTLEMENT BY THE CHINESE, THIS WAS ONE OF THE WAYS IN WHICH A PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT MIGHT BE REACHED. I ADDED THAT IN OUR VIEW THIS WAS ENTIRELY FOR THE CHINESE TO WORK OUT AND THAT WE WERE NOT PROPOSING OR URGING ANYTHING. WHAT WE WANTED WAS A PEACEFUL SOLUTION.

5. PURSUING THE NEGOTIATION POINT THE PREMIER NOTED HE HAD OFTEN HEARD THAT THE UNITED STATES WAS CONCERNED ABOUT THE SECURITY AND WELL-BEING OF TAIWAN. "WE ARE ALSO CONCERNED" HE SAID, "AND THAT IS WHY THE GROC CANNOT NEGOTIATE." TO AGREE TO NEGOTIATE WOULD MEAN THAT THE GROC WAS GIVING UP ITS OWN SECURITY AND WELL-

BEING.

6. OTHER TOPICS COVERED WILL BE REPORTED SEPTTEL.

7. ENGLISH-LANGUAGE CHINA POST THIS MORNING CARRIED STORY
ABOUT MY VISIT TO PREMIER, BASED ON GIO RELEASE,
SAYING "TALKS BETWEEN THE TWO WERE VERY CORDIAL AND THE
U.S. ENVOY ALSO REPORTED TO THE PREMIER ABOUT HIS RECENT
HOME CONSULTATIONS IN THE U.S."
UNGER

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NNN

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Sent Date: 11-Nov-1977 12:00:00 am
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Disposition History: n/a
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